

OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS RENDERED BY THE INTER- NATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

Edited by

FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

Secretary to the Commission

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OPINION 458

Determination of the interpretation of the nominal
species *Eschara vulgaris* Moll, 1803 (Class Ectoprocta)

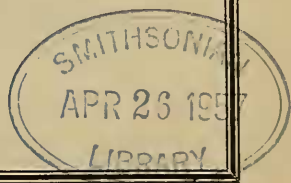
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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

COMPOSITION AT THE TIME OF THE ADOPTION OF THE RULING GIVEN IN OPINION 458

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OPINION 458

DETERMINATION OF THE INTERPRETATION OF THE NOMINAL SPECIES "ESCHARA VULGARIS" MOLL, 1803 (CLASS ECTOPROCTA)

RULING :—(1) It is hereby directed that the nominal species *Eschara vulgaris* Moll, 1803 (Class Ectoprocta) is to be interpreted by the specimen illustrated by Moll (J.P.C.) as figures 10A and 10B on plate 3 of his work *Eschara ex Zoophytorum* (the specimen so figured being there shown as *Eschara vulgaris* var. α), the specimen so figured having been selected by Brown (D. A.) in 1952 to be the lectotype.

(2) The under-mentioned generic names are hereby placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* with the Name Numbers severally specified below :—

- (a) *Escharina* Milne Edwards (H.), 1836 (gender : feminine) (type species, by original designation : *Eschara vulgaris* Moll, 1803, as interpreted in (1) above) (Name No. 1071) ;
- (b) *Microporella* Hincks, 1877 (gender : feminine) (type species, by original designation : *Eschara ciliata* Pallas, 1766) (Name Number 1072).

(3) The under-mentioned specific names are hereby placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* with the Name Numbers severally specified below :—

- (a) *vulgaris* Moll, 1803, as published in the combination *Eschara vulgaris* and as interpreted in (1) above (specific name of type species of *Escharina* Milne Edwards (H.), 1836) (Name No. 1148) ;
- (b) *ciliata* Pallas, 1766, as published in the combination *Eschara ciliata* (specific name of type species of *Microporella* Hincks, 1877) (Name No. 1149).

(4) The under-mentioned family-group name is hereby placed on the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology* with the Name Number 147 :—

MICROPORELLIDAE Hincks, 1880 (type genus :
Microporella Hincks, 1877).

I. THE STATEMENT OF THE CASE

On 14th December 1953 Dr. D. A. Brown (*University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand*) addressed a preliminary communication to the Office of the Commission regarding the interpretation of the nominal species *Eschara vulgaris* Moll, 1803 (Class Ectoprocta). Following correspondence with the Secretary Dr. Brown submitted to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature on 31st January 1955 the following application in which he asked for a Ruling that the foregoing species be interpreted by reference to the lectotype which he had designated in 1952 :—

Proposed addition to the " Official List of Specific Names in Zoology " of the specific name " vulgaris " Moll, 1803, as published in the combination " Eschara vulgaris " as determined by the lectotype selection made by Brown (D.A.) in 1952 (Class Ectoprocta)

By D. A. BROWN

(*University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand*)

The object of the present application is to ask the International Commission to stabilise the name *Eschara vulgaris* Moll, 1803 (*Eschara ex Zoophyt* : 55, 56) by placing the specific name *vulgaris* Moll on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology*. The nature of this case is explained in the following paragraphs.

2. The circumstances in which Moll established the nominal species *Eschara vulgaris* were rather peculiar, for he regarded it as being composed of two varieties which he styled " var. α " and " var. β " ; he provided an indication and figures for each of these " varieties " , but he gave no indication or figures for the species itself. For the

first of his "varieties" he wrote "var. α labio inferiori [sic] fisso" and for the second "var. β labio inferiore integro". Both these "varieties" he illustrated on his plate 3, "variety" α as figs. 10A and 10B, "variety" β as figs. 11A—C.

3. Moll's two "varieties" have long been regarded as taxonomically distinct species. The name *vulgaris* Moll has been commonly used for Moll's variety α but that "variety" was not formally selected to be the lectotype of Moll's species until this was done by myself in 1952 (*Tertiary Cheilostomatous Polyzoa of New Zealand* : 228). Moll's "variety β " has been variously treated as being identical with, or as closely allied to, the taxon represented by the nominal species *Eschara ciliata* Pallas, 1766 (*Elench. Zoophyt* : 38), a species which is the type species of *Microporella* Hincks, 1877 (*Ann. Mag. nat. Hist.* (4) 20 : 526). From a nomenclatorial point of view, however, the identity of Moll's "var. β " has ceased to be of importance now that his "var. α " has been selected to be the lectotype of his species *Eschara vulgaris*.

4. In 1836 Milne Edwards (H.) established the nominal genus *Escharina* (in Lamarck, *Hist. nat. Anim. sans Vertèbr.* (ed. 2) 2 : 218, 230) and designated *Eschara vulgaris* var. α as the type species of this genus. Milne Edwards' action clearly indicated which of Moll's so-called "varieties" he desired should be the type species of this genus, but from the nomenclatorial point of view the nominal species *Eschara vulgaris* was at that time indeterminate and remained so until the lectotype selection made in 1952.

5. I accordingly now ask the International Commission :—

- (1) to place the under-mentioned generic names on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* :—
 - (a) *Escharina* Milne Edwards (H.), 1836 (gender : feminine) (type species, by original designation : *Eschara vulgaris*, Moll, 1803 (as defined by the selection by Brown (D.A.) (1952) of Moll's "var. α " as lectotype) ;
 - (b) *Microporella* Hincks, 1877 (gender : feminine) (type species, by original designation : *Eschara ciliata* Pallas, 1766) ;
- (2) to place the under-mentioned specific names on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* :—
 - (a) *ciliata* Pallas, 1766, as published in the combination *Eschara ciliata* (specific name of type species of *Microporella* Hincks, 1877) ;

- (b) *vulgaris* Moll, 1803, as published in the combination *Eschara vulgaris* and determined as in (1)(a) above (specific name of type species of *Escharina* Milne Edwards (H.), 1836).

II. THE SUBSEQUENT HISTORY OF THE CASE

2. Registration of the present application : Upon the receipt of Dr. Brown's preliminary communication the question of the interpretation of the nominal species *Eschara vulgaris* Moll, 1803, was allotted the Registered Number Z.N.(S.)792.

3. Publication of the present application : The present application was sent to the printer on 2nd February 1955 and was published on 31st May in the same year in Part 5 of Volume 11 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (Brown, 1955, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **11** : 153—154).

4. Adoption of a drafting amendment as respects one part of the present application : Following the publication of the present application two members of the Commission (J. Chester Bradley ; Ernst Mayr) criticised as unfelicitous the wording employed in the present application at the point where the International Commission was asked to direct that the nominal species *Eschara vulgaris* Moll, 1803, be interpreted "by the selection by Brown (D.A.) (1952) of Moll's 'var. α ' as lectotype". It was then agreed that the wording of this part of the proposal should be so amended as to ask the Commission to give a Ruling that the foregoing nominal species be interpreted by the specimen illustrated by Moll as figures 10A and 10B on plate 3 of that author's work "*Eschara ex Zoophyt.*" (the specimen so figured being there shown as *Eschara vulgaris* var. α), the specimen so figured having been selected by Brown (D.A.) in 1952 to be the lectotype. A note on the foregoing verbal amendment of the present application was in due course attached as Note 2 to the Voting Paper issued in the present case (paragraph 6 below).

5. **No objection received** : No objection to the action proposed in the present case was received from any source.

III. THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

6. **Issue of Voting Paper V.P.(56)8** : On 29th February 1956 a Voting Paper (V.P.(56)8) was issued in which the Members of the Commission were invited to vote either for, or against, " the proposal relating to the specific name *vulgaris* Moll, 1803, as published in the combination *Eschara vulgaris*, as set out in Points (1) and (2) in paragraph 5 on page 154 of Volume 11 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* " [i.e. in the paragraph numbered as above in the paper reproduced in the first paragraph of the present *Opinion*].

7. **The Prescribed Voting Period** : As the foregoing Voting Paper was issued under the Three-Month Rule, the Prescribed Voting Period closed on 29th May 1956.

8. **Particulars of the Voting on Voting Paper V.P.(56)8** : At the close of the Prescribed Voting Period, the state of the voting on Voting Paper V.P.(56)8 was as follows :—

(a) *Affirmative Votes had been given by the following twenty-five (25) Commissioners (arranged in the order in which Votes were received)* :

Holthuis ; Hering ; Lemche ; do Amaral ; Bradley (J.C.) ; Vokes ; Mayr ; Key ; Dymond ; Bodenheimer ; Mertens ; Sylvester-Bradley ; Esaki ; Boschma ; Hankó ; Riley ; Jaczewski ; Prantl ; Stoll ; Hemming ; Cabrera ; Tortonese ; Bonnet ; Kühnelt ; Miller ;

(b) *Negative Votes* :

None ;

(c) *Voting Papers not returned* :

None.

9. Declaration of Result of Vote : On 30th May 1956, Mr. Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission, acting as Returning Officer for the Vote taken on Voting Paper V.P.(56)8, signed a Certificate that the Votes cast were as set out in paragraph 8 above and declaring that the proposal submitted in the foregoing Voting Paper had been duly adopted and that the decision so taken was the decision of the International Commission in the matter aforesaid.

10. Addition of a name to the " Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology " : On 1st December 1956 Mr. Hemming as Secretary executed the following Minute directing the addition to the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology* of the family-group name MICROPORELLIDAE Hincks, 1880, a family-group taxon having as its type genus the genus *Microporella* Hincks, 1877, a name which under the decision taken by the Commission by its Voting Paper V.P.(56)8 has been placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* by the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* :—

**Addition of a name to the " Official List of
Family-Group Names in Zoology "**

By FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.,

(*Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature*)

When recently I reviewed the case relating to the interpretation of the nominal species *Eschara vulgaris* Moll, 1803, consequent upon the completion of the Prescribed Voting Period in respect of Voting Paper V.P.(56)8, the Voting Paper issued in connection with the foregoing

case, my attention was drawn to the fact that there was no reference in the application to the questions at the family-group-name level involved in the proposal included in the application that the generic names *Escharina* Milne Edwards (H.), 1836, and *Microporella* Hincks, 1877, be placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*.

2. I find on looking into this matter (1) that the genus *Escharina* Milne Edwards is not considered by specialists to be the type genus of a family-group taxon, being currently placed in the family SCHIZOPORELLIDAE (type genus: *Schizoporella* Hincks, 1877) but (2) that the genus *Microporella* Hincks, 1877, is currently accepted as the type genus of the family MICROPORELLIDAE Hincks, 1880 (*Hist. Brit. mar. Polyzoa* 1 : 204).

3. In order to make good the inadvertent omission from the present application of a proposal that the family-group name MICROPORELLIDAE Hincks, 1880, be placed on the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology*, I now, as Secretary, hereby direct that the foregoing well-established family-group name be entered on the above *Official List*.

11. Preparation of the Ruling given in the present "Opinion" :

On 3rd December 1956 Mr. Hemming prepared the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* and at the same time signed a Certificate that the terms of that Ruling were in complete accord with those of the proposal approved by the International Commission in its Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(56)8, subject to the adjustment in respect of a family-group name involved in this case specified in the Minute executed by the Secretary on 1st December 1956. The text of the Minute here referred to has been reproduced in paragraph 10 of the present *Opinion*.

12. **Original References :** The following are the original references for the names placed on *Official Lists* by the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* :—

ciliata, *Eschara*, Pallas, 1766, *Elench. Zooph.* : 38

Escharina Milne Edwards (H.), 1836, in Lamarck, *Hist. nat. Anim. sans Vertèbr.* (ed. 2) 2: 218, 230

Microporella Hincks, 1877, *Ann. Mag. nat. Hist.* (4) 20 : 526

vulgaris, *Eschara*, Moll (J.P.C.), 1803, *Eschara ex Zoophyt.* : 55, 56, pl. 3, figs. 10A, 10B [nec. figs. 11A—C]

13. The following is the reference for the lectotype selection for the nominal species *Eschara vulgaris* Moll, 1803, specified in the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* : Brown (D.A.), 1952, *Tert. Cheilostomatous Polyzoa New Zealand* : 228.

14. The following is the original reference for the name placed on the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology* by the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* :—

MICROPORELLIDAE Hincks, 1880, *Hist. Brit. mar. Polyzoa* 1 : 204

15. The prescribed procedures were duly complied with by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in dealing with the present case, and the present *Opinion* is accordingly hereby rendered in the name of the said International Commission by the under-signed Francis Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, in virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon him in that behalf.

16. The present *Opinion* shall be known as *Opinion* Four Hundred and Fifty-Eight (458) of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

DONE in London, this Third day of December, Nineteen Hundred and Fifty-Six.

*Secretary to the International Commission
on Zoological Nomenclature*

FRANCIS HEMMING